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ABDUL LATIF FAKOORHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know what action is taken against people who do not report births and deaths? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Action is taken against defaulters, Sir."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Who are the officers who are charged with the duty of registration of births and deaths in municipal towns? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There are Births and Deaths Registrars, Sir, employed in municipal towns."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is not insufficiency of staff, Sir, one of the reasons for these unregistered births? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. The number of Health Inspectors is too small and their jurisdiction is too large and therefore it becomes difficult for them to detect cases. They have to deal with a large number of people in a wide area."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is there any proposal to increase the Health staff in order not only to see to the proper registration of births and deaths, but also to carry out their other duties? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There have been proposals under consideration, but the difficulty is one of finance."

Termination of the services of Srimathi M. Saguna Bai, M.B.B.S.

* 145 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the services of Srimathi M. Saguna Bai, M.B.B.S., were dispensed with; and

(b) whether the Government can give the reason therefor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) It was done in public interest."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" What is meant by public interest, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" She was reported to have Communist sympathies, Sir."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what is meant by Communist sympathies in the case of a Lady Assistant Surgeon? Really to give one bad name and hang him, is a very serious matter, Sir. What are the activities which the police suspect of this Lady Assistant Surgeon to have committed in Kurnool? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I do not think that I should disclose the matter in the open House, Sir. If the hon. Member comes to me, I will lay the case before him."

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Were her services dispensed with on the report of the C.I.D., and if so, was any responsible officer asked to verify whether the report of the C.I.D. was correct or not? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Responsible police officers have conducted investigation and it was on the report of the police, who said that she should not be kept in service, that her services were dispensed with. It will be prejudicial, Sir, to the public interest to place the full facts before the House."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Will the Government consider the desirability of enquiring into the matter once again apart from the police report? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I do not think it is necessary, Sir."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it not desirable and necessary in the public interest to find out whether the Lady Assistant Surgeon occupying such a responsible position was really guilty or not? Is it proper to act merely on the strength of the C.I.D.'s report, without verifying whether it is correct or not? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" She was only a temporary Assistant Surgeon not holding any permanent post, Sir. This is not a matter for any departmental enquiry."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Whether she was holding a temporary post or permanent post, I may mention that she was holding a responsible appointment. In such a case, is it not necessary on the part of the Government to institute a departmental enquiry whether she was really guilty or not, and can the Government simply depend on the police report and act upon it? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" A proper enquiry has been made into the matter, Sir, and I do not think it is necessary to go into it in detail at present."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know what sort of enquiry was conducted apart from the police enquiry? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I am not prepared to disclose those facts here, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether explanation was called for from the doctor and if so, what explanation has she offered before these orders were passed? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" She made a representation to the Government, giving her explanation, but the Government were not satisfied with the explanation given."

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Will the Government be pleased to appoint an enquiry committee consisting of officials and non-officials to go into the matter again to find out whether she was actually guilty or not ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir, it is not necessary to have any such committee."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Was there any departmental enquiry after the report of the police ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, as she was a servant of the Government working under the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, was it not proper that the departmental head should have been consulted, before action was taken on the police report ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is not necessary to have departmental enquiry in such cases."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Then there is no safety for the Government officials, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is not a question, please."

The Government Co-operative Housing Scheme.

*146 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any, and what changes, have been made in the Government Co-operative Housing Scheme formulated by the former Minister for Housing ; and

(*b*) whether the Government have placed any restriction on building A and B classes of houses, and, if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" (*a*) So far no change has been made in the Co-operative Housing Schemes sponsored by Government.

" (*b*) No restriction has yet been placed on the construction of A and B class houses. The Government are however considering the question of encouraging construction of smaller types of houses by co-operative societies in preference to the bigger and costlier types."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether orders have been issued by the Government stating that they would not accord sanction to co-operative house-building societies for constructing A and B class houses ? "

THE HON. DR. S. GURUBATHAM :—" No, Sir, no such orders have been issued."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, when the Government hope to come to a decision on this matter, as meanwhile a number of house-building societies are constructing A and B class houses ? "